

EASTER NUMBER

THE NEGRO FARMER

Published in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; Especially Devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World, to be Circulated Among 2,000,000 Black Farmers.

Vol. 1, No. 6

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., APRIL 11, 1914

5c. Per Copy. \$1.00 Per Year



GROWING PLANTS, SWELLING BUDS, AND OPENING FLOWERS OF FARM AND FIELD SPEAK OF RESURRECTION---OF NEW LIFE

Copyright 1914, by Isaac Fisher

TO THE NEGRO FARMERS OF THE UNITED STATES

By MRS. ALICE M. DUNBAR (See Editorial Note)

God washes clean the souls and hearts of you
His favored ones, whose backs bend o'er the soil,
Which grudging gives to them requite for toil
In sober graces and in vision true.
God places in your hands the pow'r to do
A service sweet. Your gift supreme to foil
The bare-fanged wolves of hunger in the moil

Of Life's activities. Yet all too few
Your glorious band, clean-sprung from Nature's heart;
The hope of hungry thousands, in whose breast
Dwells fear that you should fail. God placed no dart
Of war within your hands, but pow'r to start
Tears, praise, love, joy, enwoven in a crest
To crown you glorious, brave ones of the soil.

Easter Thoughts of Woman, Beauty and Home

Beautify the Farm Home

If you want to make life on the farm more attractive, beautify the farm home first of all, for there is where the family gets their inspiration and encouragement or their discouragements.

Build Pretty Walks

Build good and pretty walks to and around the house. These can be edged by sweet, pot, or medicinal herbs, which, if planted close by the walks where passers brush against them, will give forth fragrance. Sweet Basil, Pennyroyal, Peppermint, Sweet Marjoram, Balm, Tansy, Lavender, etc., are good to plant. Such herbs require a rich mellow soil. Their seeds should be sown in shallow drills, one foot apart early in spring.

Make a Lawn

The yard in which the house is seated should not be clean and bare, but should have grass and flowers in it. Any of the reliable seed houses can provide the proper lawn grass seed to sow in your yard. Of course, spots should be left clean for your flowers, but green grass in the other parts of the yard will add much beauty to the house and surroundings.

What Flowers to Buy

Buy flowers that are easiest to grow, such as Morning Glories, Nasturtiums, Sunflowers, Bachelor's Buttons, Sweet Peas, Verbenas, Roses, etc. If you like orange or yellow colors, buy California poppies; get Sweet Sul-tans, for purples, whites, and pale yellows; if you like blue, get Bachelor's Buttons. The soil should be made rich, fine, soft, and deep, just as for onions or radishes.

Climbing Vines

If the fence does not appear quite as attractive as it should, buy some Bignonias, which are splendid for covering unsightly places, stumps, etc. The Matrimony Vine does equally as well.

Fence in the Yard

No home yard will look like one unless it has a fence around it. By all means, the good man of the house should fence in the yard so that the wife or children may be encouraged to have a flower garden. This done, all farm tools should be removed from the yard so that it may be kept in proper condition.

Tree Planting

Put a few trees about the building. For quickly growing trees the Cottonwood and Box Elder are best. For more permanent

trees, the Honey Locust, American Elm, and Hackberry are recommended. Don't plant too many trees, but just enough to give the proper amount of shade.

HE IS RISEN!

The Language of Several Flow-ers and Plants

Orange Blossom—means Love
 Laurel—means Fame or Glory
 Olive—means Peace
 Flowering Almonds—means Hope
 Rose—means Love, also Beauty
 Yellow Rose—means Jealousy
 Rose-leaf—means Hope on
 White Rose—means Silence
 Balsam—means Impatience
 Pansy—means Think of Me
 Daisy—means Innocence
 Violet (blue)—means Faithfulness
 Violet (yellow)—means Country Happiness
 Violet (white)—means Innocence
 Morning Glory—means Affection
 Narcissus—means Self-love
 Ivy—means Friendship and Faithfulness
 Hyacinth (purple)—means Sorrow
 Tulip—means Love
 Lily of the Valley—means Sweetness, Happiness, Purity
 Lily (the Crown Imperial)—means Majesty and Power.

Flower Verses for School Children

Violets—

The modest, lowly violet
 In leaves of tender green is set;
 So rich she can not hide from view,
 But covers all the bank with blue.
 —D. R. Goodale.

Bluebells—

Oh! roses and lilies are fair to see;
 But the wild bluebell is the flower for me.
 —L. A. Meredith.

Pansies—

Of all the bonny buds that blow
 In bright or cloudy weather,
 Of all the flowers that come and go
 The whole twelve moons together,
 The little purple pansy brings
 Thoughts of the sweetest, saddest things.
 —M. E. Bradley.

Lilies—

And the stately lilies stand
 Fair in the silvery light
 Like saintly vestals pale in prayer;
 Their pure breath sanctifies the air,
 As its fragrance fills the night.
 —J. C. R. Dorr.

Buttercups,

Columbines,

Dandelions—

And buttercups are coming
 And scarlet columbine,
 And in the sunny meadows
 The dandelions shine.
 —C. Thaxter.

Apple Blossoms—

The apple blossoms' shower of pearl,
 Though blent with rosier hue,
 As beautiful as woman's blush,
 As evanescent too.
 —L. E. Landon.

HE IS RISEN!

The Use of Flowers at Weddings

Mating and wedding time are at our doors; and soon merry wedding bells will begin their chimes. The lassies will doubtless be interested in the following notes on the use of flowers before and at weddings;

In France the bridegroom used to send his bride a nosegay of the finest flowers of the season every morning until the wedding.

In "Flowers and Flower Lore," it is said: "Orange blossoms are naturally associated by us with weddings. Their delicate purity and fragrance specially adapt them for such an honored place. Dr. Brewer gives us the following information respecting orange blossoms worn at weddings: 'The Saracen brides used to wear orange blossoms as a sign of fecundity; * * * * but the general adoption of wreaths of orange blossoms for brides is comparatively a modern practice, due especially to the recent taste for flower language.'"

During the sixteenth century, branches of Rosemary were worn by brides. This plant stood for remembrance and in the bridal wreath "It silently bade the bride bear away to her new home the remembrance of the dear old roof-tree which had sheltered her youth, and of the loving hearts which had cherished her."

It was once the custom for the slighted lover to wear a wreath of willows at the wedding of his former sweetheart.

Once, it was customary to strew fragrant herbs and flowers in the path of the bride and groom on their way to the wedding.

In Germany, the Myrtle is used for the bride wreath. It is the emblem of purity and fertility. The ancient Greeks crowned the bride with chaplets of Lilies and ears of corn to represent purity and abundance.

"The Boetians used garlands of Wild Asparagus, which, though full of prickles, bore excellent fruit. It was therefore thought to resemble the bride, who had given her lover some trouble in gaining her affections, which she was afterwards to recompense." (Flowers and Flower Lore.)

Daisies—

With little here to do or see
 Of things that in the great world be,
 Sweet daisy! oft I talk to thee.
 —W. Wordsworth.

Primroses—

Ring-ting! I wish I were a primrose,
 A bright yellow primrose blowing in the spring!
 The stooping boughs above me,
 The wandering bee to love me,
 The fern and moss to creep across,
 And the elm-tree for our king!
 —W. Allingham.

The Better Home For The Better Farmer

Some Suggestions Concerning the things that Should Be in and Around Such a Home

By MRS. ADELLA HUNT LOGAN

(Model Housekeeper; beautiful Mother whose children must, when their years wax old, "arise up and call her blessed;" and friend of those who labor and toil; Mrs. Logan is especially fitted to write this message.—The Editor.)

Too many folks have the notion that any old place of shelter will do to house a Negro farm family. The pity of this is that too many such families are satisfied with any old place.

Rooms that a House Should Contain

Up-to-date farm houses should be built to suit the needs of the tenants and also to include some of the comforts found in city houses. One of the greatest needs in most farm houses now is more space. Parents should demand that there be separate sleeping rooms for boys and girls, as well as airy rooms for grown people. Each family needs a kitchen and should try to have a dining room, also.

Social Needs

A sitting room, too, answers a social need. Any good housekeeper can easily make the same room serve as sitting room and dining room. Inconvenient and unpleasant as it is to work and eat in the same room, it is still more improper to receive social callers in sleeping rooms.

The plain truth is that there is such a moral side to the custom (too common among farmer folk) of allowing social calls to be held in bed rooms that it would be much better to entertain social callers in the kitchen in winter and on the porch in summer.

A Room for Courtship, Marriage, Births, and Deaths

Since the social needs of families have such an important place, there should be places set aside for cooking, eating, bathing, sleeping, courtships, marriages, births, and deaths. Let us not describe here those so-called homes in which all these natural affairs of family life are taking place on some Southern plantations.

Setting Dangerous Examples for Children

Our readers know how it is with many croppers and farmer laborers near them,—three or two rooms for large families and sometimes only one. Such conditions do not favor decent living; and ambitious parents will work like fire fighters for better.

All parents desire to see their children amount to something, to be somebody; but they set the children a hard task if they fail to provide decent living conditions.

Installment Furniture

Installment furniture stores have placed

in many cabins too much showy, cheap furniture at high prices. Simple iron bedsteads with strong springs, well-tacked cotton mattresses, soft pillows with good sheets, and pillow cases and white spreads will afford much more sleeping comfort than high headboards and high polish at high rates. Such fine beds are often uncomfortable because of the stiff heavy mortgages overhanging them—mortgages are too cold for good sleeping purposes.

Clothes Closets, and Other Conveniences

Places for the care and keep of clothes are essential in any well-regulated house. Closets, if not built into the houses, may be made up by the use of simple curtain goods, such as denim or cretonne, and a little woodwork. Hooks and hangers not only make better care of hats and clothing possible, but help to form habits that are worth while.

Few persons seem to know the real value of a mirror. One large one in each home will promote self-respect. Wash stands are essentials. Here again it does not require so much money; for plain bowls, pitchers, soap dishes, and tooth-brush holders, kept clean and properly used, are just as serviceable as expensive fixtures. Tooth-brushes are most essential. See to it that there are as many tooth-brushes as there are mouths in your home. Water, bath-tubs, soap and towels have a very important bearing upon the better home and the better farmer, as these contribute so much to human health and efficiency.

Air and the Water Supply

Long summers suggest porch space. Abundance of air during the night is best for the outdoor worker as it is for the indoor worker. Sleeping with screened windows and doors open is said to be about the best way to prevent and cure all forms of lung troubles.

In the South, Negro farmers should get busy about their water supply. At present, it is altogether too poor, too scarce, and too hard to get. Better arrangements are made for getting the stock watered than for the family. By all means give conveniences to the boys and the men who care for live stock; but is it not about as important to make easier the work of girls and women in kitchen and laundry work?

Any landlord interested in having his own water works can learn how by writing the President of the State Board of Health at the capital of his State or from United States Government bulletins which may be

had from his congressman. Ask him to send Farmers' Bulletin No. 463.

Preventing Disease

The surroundings of many farm homes are deplorably bad. Much of this may be easily improved. Barns are useful but not ornamental. They do not belong in the front of one's premises. The same may be said of cow-pens and pig-sties.

All outhouses should be so far from the dwelling and kept so clean that there will be neither animal odors nor flies entering the family abode. Privies and earth closets should be screened at the back and closed at the stool to prevent flies from carrying filth and disease germs to the family. Lime is cheap and its free use pays. Diarrhea and typhoid fever are filth diseases carried by flies. Can you afford to risk the life of your loved ones for the want of a little work and money for sanitary improvements? Cleanliness and care are part of the price of life; and they should be insisted upon indoors and out of doors.

When farmers really get it into their heads that they can save millions of dollars by preventing disease, then may the country expect to see more industrious efforts to suppress the breeding of flies and mosquitoes, to prevent hookworm and other filth diseases.

Gardens

Vegetable gardens, good ones that last more than three months, go a great way toward making this better farmer. Did you ever really try it to success? If not, do so in this good year of 1914.

Life More Than Meat

Flowers are as easy of cultivation as vegetables and are about as good in their way. Some one in your household has a talent for growing flowers. Encourage this talent. All will enjoy the beauty and fragrance of flowers as they grow and bloom. And oh! what a refining influence they have in the home. What is better in a farm dining room than the presence of a healthy family seated to a breakfast of oatmeal, muffins and fresh home-made sausage set off with a bowl of cotton blossoms gracing the table, inviting them to their day's work?

The hurried housekeeper takes time to arrange a few roses before serving her dinner of meat, vegetables, and fresh buttermilk. Some days the diners will forgive the lack of dessert because of the beauty of the flowers. Certainly they will when they smell the fragrant honeysuckle on the supper table if they also have mamma's best hot biscuits served with plenty of sweet country butter, Elberta peaches with cream and "sich like."

Better Homes Will Help to Make Better Farmers

Better homes will help to make better farmers and better farmers will see to it that their farms are improved. At whatever cost of labor and thought this comfortable home may be secured, the rewards will always be worth the outlay.

WINNERS FROM THE SOIL

COLORED HEROES OF THE FARM

Peyton M. DeWitt—Lover of Flowers

Now that "The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land" (Song of Solomon 2: 12), it is fitting that the farm story this week be one about a man who loves and grows flowers.

In the city of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, there are eight greenhouses, each having a depth of 150 feet and a breadth of twenty feet, covered by 20,000 feet of glass. This is the establishment of a colored man who loves flowers.

His garden covers thirty acres of land; and he gives regular employment to six men. This gardener was born in the State of Georgia, just before the Civil War. At the age of eight years he was a mule driver on a canal, but now he is one of the most successful horticulturists in the country, and his name is Peyton M. DeWitt.

Grows Carnations and Chrysanthemums

In addition to growing other kinds of flowers, this gardener ships, during the busy season, from 500 to 1,000 carnations and chrysanthemums daily to two leading wholesale houses in Philadelphia, according to "The Crisis." Mr. DeWitt is specializing in the growing of these two flowers. A few years ago he marketed a new variety—a dark pink carnation—known as the Pennsylvania, but called the "DeWitt" by many persons; and he has a number of others on trial.

His Wealth

Bradstreet says that this gardener-farmer is worth \$40,000. "What need have we of further witness?"

To the Country School Teacher

There are hundreds of teachers at work in the country districts and small towns who can supplement their salaries and do some good at the same time by getting subscribers for The Negro Farmer.

We want every colored school teacher to feel that The Negro Farmer is meant to help him or her in his work and also help the people in the community.

We will pay a liberal commission to teachers who want to act as our agents. Write at once for terms.

Address: The Negro Farmer

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

ROASTING EARS

(Contributed)

There is nothing grown in the garden or in the field that has such a delicious flavor and does the family so much good and brings the home so much joy as a good roasting ear of corn in the late spring or early summer.

If you have not set aside some land in your garden or on your farm on which to raise roasting ears for the family, it should be done at once.

Do not plant all the roasting ear corn at once. Plant a little every week so that you will have some fresh corn ready for the table every week. It does not require much to keep the table supplied.

Many farmers make the mistake of not using the young roasting ears, preferring to let it mature into hard corn for the use of pigs and mules, while the family is starving for something nourishing and palatable to eat.

Every time the table is supplied with roasting ears it reduces the amount of money necessary to spend in the store. The roasting ears can be used in the morning, at noon and at night.

Be sure in planting your roasting ear corn that you select the very best seeds that you can get hold of. Above all things, do not neglect to prepare the land and plant the crop early.

HOW ONE MAN SAVES HIS SWEET POTATOES

A Colored Scientist Who Does Not Know He is One

Near Jackson, Tennessee, there lives a colored man, named William Cathey, who has mastered the art of saving his potatoes, after growing them. Before the Farmers' Conference at Lane College, he told his simple story and exhibited some of his potatoes, which looked as if they had just been taken from the ground, instead of out of a storage room.

The man was so modest and halted so in his story, that at first the audience did not really understand that they were listening to a man who had been growing potatoes for 24 years; who, until recently since he bought a new farm, would not even let a cotton stalk grow on his land; and who has not lost any of his potatoes.

Mr. T. M. Campbell, the Colored Farmers' Demonstration Agent in the employ of the United States Department of Agriculture, and who was present at the meeting, not only questioned Mr. Cathey until he had him tell his whole story with emphasis, but went out to his farm, examined his potato houses and made another special report to the Conference the next day on what he had seen and on the other farm products that this farmer was preserving.

Interest in Mr. Cathey's story centered in the fact that thousands of dollars' worth of potatoes are lost by rotting every year. Summarized, his directions for saving potatoes were as follows:

1. Don't skin or bruise the potatoes you mean to keep. Handle them as carefully as you would eggs.

2. Let the sun dry them before storing.

3. Pack large ones carefully in a box.

4. Leave all strings on the potatoes.

5. Don't try to store the little ones—leave them for eating purposes.

6. Store potatoes in a room.

7. Ventilate potato house from the top.

8. Don't let south wind strike the potatoes.

9. Keep mice and rats out of house.

10. If potatoes have bad odor after they have been shut up in room a few days, tighten the room more instead of letting in more air.

Mr. Cathey's potatoes are not covered, but are piled loose on the floor. The walls of the house are latticed, that is, lattice work is placed against the main walls so that air can circulate at the sides of the potatoes.

There are two doors to the potato house. The first or outer one admits to an inner room. This door is closed at once to keep out air. One finds himself against another wall in which another door is found. This door admits to the room where the potatoes are. Mr. Cathey says that if care is used to keep these doors closed, little air enters from the sides of the building.

He seems to have mastered the art of preserving vegetables, for he presented to the conference a number of onions, turnips, white and sweet potatoes which were remarkably fresh and well preserved.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Cathey's method is almost similar to one described in the Fourteenth Biennial Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture (p. 264), for storing sweet potatoes. Particularly the description of the potato house. And it is further of interest to see how science and practice—theory and art join hands in producing desired information.

THE USE OF FLOWERS

God might have bade the earth bring forth
Enough for great and small,
The oak tree and the cedar tree,
Without a flower at all.
We might have had enough, enough
For every want of ours,
For luxury, medicine, and toil,
And yet have had no flowers.

Then wherefore, wherefore were they made,
All dyed with rainbow light,
All fashioned with supremest grace,
Upspringing day and night:—
Springing in valleys green and low,
And on the mountains high,
And in the silent wilderness
Where no man passes by?

Our onward life requires them not,—
Then wherefore had they birth?—
To minister delight to man,
To beautify the earth;
To comfort man,—to whisper hope,
Whene'er his faith is dim,
For who so careth for the flowers
Will care much more for him.

—Mary Howitt.

PLANTING CALENDAR FOR APRIL

Late Cabbage may be planted from April to May, either the Drumhead, All Head, or Flat Dutch. Plant from 2 to 4 inches in depth, in hills.

Cantaloupes. Select the Rocky Ford, Aden Gem, Emerald Gem, Hackensack, Jenny Lind, or Osage. Plant 1 inch deep in hills or drills, from four to five feet apart.

This melon prefers sandy soil, but grows well in the South. Only three plants should be permitted to grow in a hill. After they have grown to about a foot in length, pinch off the points of shoots. This not only makes the vines stronger, but makes them produce sidebranches, and the crop matures earlier.

Bush or Snap Beans should be planted every two weeks. Cultivate these plants only when they are dry; for if any dirt falls on the leaves while they are moist the plants will rust. Beans may be planted between rows of corn or cabbage. Plant these 2 inches deep in drills.

Beets should be thinned out now.

Cucumbers may be sown again for succession.

Watermelons. The Tom Watson and Halbert Honey are good ones to plant.

Okra. Plant one and one-half inches deep in hills.

Sugar Corn. Plant every two weeks. The Country Gentleman, Mammoth, and Stowell's Evergreen Sugar varieties are good.

HE IS RISEN

HOW FARMERS CAN TEACH AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS

It is not enough that the county agent be simply a "common carrier of ideas" from farmer to farmer. He is to be a go-between to gather facts and experiences everywhere and to interpret these facts and experiences in the light of local conditions and needs. Then he is to go a step farther and carry the experience and the ideas of the farmers themselves to the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural colleges; for these institutions are as much in need of the farmer's wisdom and an accurate knowledge of the farmer's problems as the farmer is in need of the information which agricultural institutions can give.

Active and mutually helpful co-operation is needed between the farmers themselves and all of the public agencies intended to promote agriculture and agricultural education. The farmer needs the facts and the explanations which the scientists can furnish. The scientists and teachers are no less in need of the facts and the points of view of the farmers; they need to learn the superscience which farmers call common sense, that wholesome wisdom that is the essence of the thought and experience of generations of men who have made good through work and thought and thrift and unconscious adaptation to circumstances.

In nearly every county it will be found that most of the serious agricultural problems have been solved by several of the good farmers. There is no better way of teaching a scientific truth than by calling attention to some one who is successfully practicing it. It will often be found that the successful farmer has not stopped to analyze the cause of his success and may often attribute it to the wrong factor. The lesson is there just the same.—Weekly News Letter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

CONTROLLING INSECTS

Plants that are badly attacked by insects can often be stimulated to outgrow the injury by a liberal application of fertilizer. So far, as the killing of insects is concerned, commercial fertilizers are generally better to use than barnyard manure, since they flourish in this manure but are killed or discouraged by such commercial fertilizers as kainit and nitrate of soda. Such are the conclusions of the Ohio Experiment Station.

Turn chickens and turkeys into the orchard to help destroy insects, but do not let them roost in the trees. The guinea, ducks, and geese are also splendid insect hunters.

DON'T KILL THE TOADS

The toad is the gardener's friend, because of the insects he destroys. His regular food is angle worms, spiders, ants, grasshoppers, crickets, cutworms, beetles, and caterpillars. It is estimated that in 90 days the average toad destroys about one thousand injurious insects. English and French gardeners pay as high as \$25 per hundred for toads.

GUINEAS

The pearl guinea is the best known. They are the very best watchmen that can be had around a poultry farm, raising an alarm before the hawks can get anywhere near to the yard, and all the chickens, listening to the peculiar cry, run into the bushes and the house, out of danger.

The white guinea is tamer than the pearl variety. If you have had no experience, it will be better to let a hen hatch the guinea eggs.

Take the eggs from the guinea nest with a long-handle spoon, because the guinea hen will not go back to the nest if human hands have been in it.

The little guinea keets, for the first week or ten days, should have the same food as is given to young turkeys. Give them fresh water, protect them from dampness, but give them plenty of sunshine and fresh air. They should be enclosed by fine mesh wire to keep them from straying.

The meat of a guinea bird is excellent, reminding one of game. A few guineas should be around the poultry yard.

KILLING CHINCH BUGS

Kill the chinch bugs that sleep under old boards and rubbish and in trash and grass around the borders of old fields, especially wheat fields, by burning these places and rubbish.

RAISING GEESE

Since it requires so little care to raise geese, the farmer should have a few on his place. They live almost entirely on grass and seldom get sick.

There are three kinds of geese from which selections are generally made—Toulouse, Embden, and African. These are the largest breeds and the Toulouse is the most popular of all.

Especially care must be taken to keep the goslings away from streams of water where turtles are and away from hogs. Both turtles and hogs are unusually fond of goslings, and the greatest losses of geese growers come from one or both of these sources.

After they are about forty-eight hours old, young goslings may be given a few sprigs of grass and a very little water. The third day, some well-cooked cornbread, salted and made with buttermilk and soda, and a few meat scraps make an excellent food. Put their water in shallow vessels. Keep them away from ponds or streams. See that they have plenty of grit with their food. After they are about two weeks old, they need very little care.

TREATMENT OF BABY TURKEYS

Dampness often kills the baby turkeys, so they should be kept up in the morning until the dew has dried and if allowed to run about it should be in fields or yards where the grass is short.

Do not feed them until after they are twenty-four hours old. Give them a little hard stale bread that has been soaked in milk. This is considered a very good food. Mix sand with their first food—not too much.

Be sure to keep mites and lice off the babies if they are to live.

Keep everything clean where the young ones range—their drinking vessels, coops and the floors of houses which they use. Fill up all filthy holes in the yard.

Don't do too much feeding. It will be better to let the mother hen look after carrying the babies, since she knows best about their feeding.

You have to watch that the young ones do not have indigestion, do not get damp, and that they are kept free from vermin during the first six weeks.

DUCK NOTES

The Indian Runner duck is the favorite with duck raisers. They lay more eggs than other breeds, are very handsome and stylish, can outtravel other breeds, hence get more food of their own accord and are less expensive, and they do not need water for swimming as other breeds do.

Do not feed the ducklings during their first forty-eight hours. After this give them all the water they will drink. Feed them a mash consisting of about four parts bran and two parts corn meal over which sand has been sprinkled. Keep plenty of sand before them. After they are about ten days old, the corn meal may be increased until there is half and half; and they may now be given some beef scraps and green food. They should be fed about five times a day. Keep plenty of water near the ducklings, night and day for drinking.

May is the usual hatching time.

Do not feed Pekin and Indian Runner Ducks together, since the Pekins will get all of the food.

FERTILIZERS REQUIRED BY DIFFERENT SOILS

SANDY soils are deficient in all three elements of plant food. A complete fertilizer containing ammonia, phosphoric acid and potash should be used; the percentage of each element varying with the demand of the various crops grown.

CLAY soils as a rule run high in potash and a fertilizer containing ammonia and phosphoric acid and a moderate supply of potash should be used.

LOAM soils are usually richer in ammonia than phosphoric acid and potash. A complete fertilizer containing about 2 per cent of ammonia with a high percentage of phosphoric acid and potash is advised.

PEAT or **MUCK** soils are very deficient in phosphoric acid and potash. A complete fertilizer containing a small percentage of ammonia with a high percentage of phosphoric acid and potash should be used.—Farmers' Almanac.

FREE BOOKS ON VEGETABLE CULTURE

Persons wishing books to aid them in growing vegetables should write to the Division of Publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and ask for some of the following bulletins which are generally sent free—

Farmers' Bulletin on

Asparagus, No. 61; Garden, The Home Vegetable, No. 255; Beans, No. 289; Mushroom, Culture of, No. 204; Cabbages, No. 433; Onion Culture, No. 354; Celery, No. 282; Sweet Potatoes, No. 324; Farmers as Factors in Truck Gardening, No. 458; Tomatoes, No. 220; Cucumbers, No. 254.

If they cannot be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, they may be had from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at from five to ten cents each.

THE NEGRO FARMER

Published Every Other Week, in the Negro Farmer Building, Greenwood, by

THE NEGRO FARMER PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Entered as Second-Class Mail Matter, February 14, 1914, at the Post Office at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Price:

Per copy.....5 cents
Per year, post-paid.....\$1.00
Six months......50
Three months......40
Foreign subscriptions, per year..... 2.25

How to Remit:

Send money by postal money order, express order, or registered letter. Stamps in good condition are accepted for small amounts. Postal money orders are preferred, and should be made payable to The Negro Farmer, Tuskegee Institute Post-office, Alabama.

All subscriptions are absolutely payable in advance; and the paper will be discontinued when the time expires unless renewed.

Advertising Rates

may be had on application. No liquor advertisements accepted.

All correspondence should be directed to The Negro Farmer, and not to any particular person connected with it

In case of removal, be sure to notify us. If you fail to receive the paper regularly after subscribing for it, or if any error is noticed, subscribers will greatly help the paper by notifying us.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1914

A MESSAGE FROM MRS. DUNBAR—Poet

Mrs. Alice M. Dunbar sends an Easter message of love, appreciation, and goodwill to the Colored Farmers of our land. It is fitting that she should do this. Poet of exquisite sweetness and known for a number of years as "Alice Ruth Moore," wife of the late Paul Laurence Dunbar; Editor of that gem and classic work called "Masterpieces of Negro Eloquence"—a work which will some day, after the author's place is vacant, find a place in the library of every person who claims culture and acquaintance with the master orations of all times—Mrs. Dunbar needs no introduction.

The poet must sing to and for the toiler. Too long poesy and labor have been divorced. They must re-wed. Indeed, I feel that it is so necessary that this be done—so necessary that the sweet singers of the world soothe and cheer those "that labor and are heavy laden," so that they may forget their heart-hurts and the cares which make life sad that if, before I "cross the bar" and meet my Pilot face to face, I may send and carry some helpful messages of beauty from the temples of poetry, literature, painting, sculpture, music, and science to those who work with their hands, I shall feel that I have not lived wholly in vain.

—ISAAC FISHER.

BACK TO THE FARM—A WORD OF CAUTION

One has but to read the current newspapers and magazines to discover that there is a real nation-wide campaign being waged to send men and women back to the farm. In the main, the movement is a good one; but there are some considerations which must not be lost sight of by those who feel the call of the country, particularly if they have not been on the farm before.

The Negro Farmer is bringing down here some very thoughtful remarks on the subject by Mr. B. T. Galloway, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture (Yearbook U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1904, p. 163):

There is a great deal being said and written at this time about farming as a vocation. Many inducements are being held out to city people and others, and many erroneous statements are being made as to the opportunities in the field. Unquestionably there is need for pointing out the advantages of rural life, but, like all good things, the tendency sometimes is, to carry the argument too far, and this result is inducing many people to go into the country or to undertake farm life who are wholly unfitted for the work. The city man is often misled by statements written by those who are not thoroughly conversant with facts, and, again, by those who have interests at stake and who would directly benefit by inducing the prospective farmer to invest in land. It would seem well, therefore, to caution the reader on this one point and to lay before him plainly the facts in reference to some of the more important requirements in the matter of undertaking the lines of work to which we shall refer farther on.

Mr. Galloway then goes into detail relative to certain requirements and equipment which persons should have to grow certain crops in certain ways; and points out that every person who undertakes farm work will not succeed.

To his remarks on the subject it is pertinent to add those of another expert—Mr. W. J. Spilman, of the Bureau of Plant Industry—

Many of those who undertake farming for the first time will fail for lack of experience and knowledge. A few will succeed. These will be men or women of unusual ability, who are willing to devote a great deal of time to a careful study of the business. Even those who have had many years' experience in farming are not always successful. The requisites for successful farming are: (1) The ability to lay plans and to execute them, and (2) an intimate knowledge both of the principles involved in growing crops and handling stock and of the business methods necessary for converting farm crops into money. A good deal of knowledge requisite for successful farming can be secured only through experience. Those without it must have a good deal of tenacity of purpose in order to live through the trying times that come while they are gaining this experience. But the rate at which men gain experience varies greatly. A great deal can be learned by reading the agricultural papers, by studying the bulletins issued by the experiment stations and the Department of Agriculture, and by studying the methods used by successful farmers. It is always unwise to enter upon a new line of business on a large scale without abundant knowledge. The inexperienced must begin on a small scale and let the business build itself. The greatest success will, in general, be achieved by intelligent men who begin on a small scale and let their business grow as their knowledge increases.

There is room for thought here; and while

neither of these authorities intended to discourage men from embarking in farming pursuits, they did mean to emphasize the words of the Master relative to the necessity of "counting the cost."

EASTER GREETINGS FROM KELLY MILLER

A University Man Who Remains Safe, Sane, and Useful

Prof. Kelly Miller, Dean of College of Arts and Sciences of Howard University, Washington, D. C., sends the following Easter greetings to this paper and the farmers for whom it speaks:

Greeting:

The Negro Farmer meets a long-felt and deep-felt want of the Negro race. The great bulk of the people are making their living in the agricultural industries. The appearance of this journal will have a stimulating effect upon the toiling masses. Agriculture is bound to assume a greater and greater place in the general life of the nation; it is of a special importance to the Negro race. Every Negro farmer who may be inspired to conduct his farm activities with a greater degree of skill and efficiency adds just that much to the general competency of the race. This is the field and function of "The Negro Farmer."

Yours truly,

(Signed) KELLY MILLER.

SWEET POTATOES

Of all the farm crops grown in our Southern States, few if any are more valuable and useful, in so many directions, than the sweet potato. Heretofore we have neglected the sweet potato.

It does not cost much to raise the sweet potato. It is a sure crop, and then it can be used to feed chickens, pigs, cows, and for the table. The sweet potato can be prepared and served on the table in a dozen different ways. It is always nourishing and palatable. If every farmer would raise a good large crop of sweet potatoes it would reduce his expenses immensely and promote the health of the family at the same time. The sweet potato can be eaten during any season of the year.

Then, in addition to the advantages named, there is a sale for sweet potatoes at every season of the year. If one will keep account of expenses, he will find that he can really make twice as much profit on an acre of this crop as he can on an acre of cotton. No farmer should fail to prepare to put in a good large sweet potato crop. Now is the time to begin to prepare.

THE COUNTY FAIR

The County Fair is an institution that has come to stay. It is one that should be supported by the farmers of all classes.

The way to make the county fair successful is for the farmers to begin early to plant such crops as they can exhibit at the fair. Do not put it off too long. If you mean to exhibit vegetables or grain, prepare now for it. If you mean to exhibit fowls or live stock of any kind, begin now to prepare for it.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

POULTRY NOTES

If you want to produce vigorous and rapidly-growing chicks, select the strongest, healthiest and most active hens for laying. The Minnesota Experiment Station advises that the chickens selected should be "rather long of body, broad, with legs set well apart, but at the same time not inclined to be too deep behind compared with the forequarters, as such hens are inclined to convert their food into meat rather than eggs. Select the active, energetic kind, the one that gets up early and retires late, the one that has bright eyes and red face and wattles."

Be sure that your rooster is purebred. The chickens famous for their eggs are: the Leghorns, Minorcas, Spanish, Blue Andalusians, and Anconas. These are also called the Mediterranean breed.

The meat breeds are: the Brahmas, Cochins, and Langshans. These are called the Asiatic breeds. Chickens for all-around purposes are: the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Javas, Dominiques, Rhode Island Reds, and Buckeyes. These are known as the American breeds.

The United States Department of Agriculture advises that February, March and April are the best months for hatching.

Little chicks should not receive food until they are 36 hours old.

Test your hen on china or nest eggs before setting. You'll save eggs in this way.

Dairy Opportunities and Advantages

The following from the Yearbook of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1906 is worthy of the consideration of colored farmers:

Opportunities for dairying are found everywhere in the United States. The different sections of the country have characteristic peculiarities, but all need milk and its products. Success awaits the dairyman who fits his work to the conditions of the place in which he lives. He should know the value of a good dairy cow and how to treat her. He should recognize the necessity of cleanliness from the time the milk leaves the udder until the finished product is in the hands of the consumer. He should know and meet the needs of his market.

The opportunities for dairying are specially enumerated to be—

1. The maintenance and increase of soil fertility. It is shown that while a ton of wheat worth \$22.00 removes \$7.50 worth of plant food from the soil, a ton of butter worth \$500 removes only 50 cents worth of plant food. Careful dairying promotes rotation of crops and diversified farming.

2. The improvement of dairy cattle. The best results in dairying are obtained only when the purest breeds of the best dairy cattle are employed.

3. The improvement of dairy products. Pure, clean milk is a demand that is increasing every year; and there is no limit to the market for such a product. The same is true of cream, butter and cheese; and the profit from the sale of the by-products from the manufacture of butter and cheese, such as casein, ash, and milk sugar is considerable.

Summarizing the advantages of dairying, the writer said:

In fairly estimating the advantages of dairying, one should consider the opportunities presented for the legitimate gratification of the strongest and best motives to action. The best dairyman is one who is most effectively controlled by such motives.

The desire for profit is strong. A Connecticut dairyman makes 22 per cent net profit annually on his investment. In Georgia one acre and one dairy

cow have produced in one year, under careful management, a net cash profit of \$28.75 in addition to \$20.00 worth of manure contributed to the fertility of the soil. The dairyman's income is conveniently distributed throughout the year, enabling him to keep money at home. There is no danger of overproduction with the world for a market.

The desire for leadership is strong. It may be gratified in the organization and management of dairy enterprises. There is opportunity for leadership in plans of co-operation connected with creameries, test associations, State experiment stations, and the improvement of the condition of the rural community.

The desire for knowledge is strong. The dairyman has opportunities for the search after truth in scientific investigations concerning the soil, the culture of forage crops, the breeding and care of live stock, the chemistry and bacteriology of milk products and the principles involved in the invention and use of machinery.

The desire for pleasure is strong. The dairyman has opportunity for pleasures of the better sort, in the enjoyment of the poetry and beauty of rural life at its best. He may enjoy the improvement of the farm home. Love for animals finds pleasure in their daily care. The endeavor to supply the best of pure food gratifies love for his fellow-men, the highest of merely human motives.

HOME MIXED FERTILIZERS

In the opinion of the Director of the Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station there are several advantages in buying unmixed fertilizer materials and putting them together at home, particularly where large quantities of fertilizers are used. The main advantages are—

1. The needed plant food can be bought at lower cost if the fertilizing materials are purchased unmixed.

2. If one is familiar with fertilizer materials and has some knowledge of soils and crops he can better fit the fertilizer to the local soil by mixing the materials according to the soil and crop needs.

3. If he mixes the fertilizer himself the farmer can give the plant food at different times just as the plant needs each one, instead of giving it all at once as is done where the mixed fertilizer is applied to the crop.

Things to Remember in Mixing Fertilizers

The station makes the following suggestions concerning the mixing of fertilizers—

1. Lime should never be mixed with any of the organic fertilizer materials, such as blood, tankage, fish, bone, cottonseed meal, castor pomace, nor with sulfate of ammonia or guanos, as it will drive off their ammonia. Neither should it, as a rule, be mixed with acid phosphate, as it decreases the solubility of the phosphoric acid.

2. Lime may be mixed either with potash salts or nitrate of soda, but only immediately before use, as the mixture tends to become lumpy.

3. In the case of slag meal the same general rules relative to mixtures hold as for lime, as slag meal contains free lime.

4. Acid phosphate should not, as a rule, be mixed either with lime or slag meal.

5. It is not safe to mix acid phosphate and nitrate of soda, if the mixture must stand long before application. For immediate use this mixture is safe.

6. Any of the following materials may be put together in mixtures to be kept any reasonable length of time: Acid phosphate, sulfate of ammonia, nitrate of soda or potash, dried blood, tankage, fish, cottonseed meal, guanos and any of the potash salts except carbonate.

SOME BIRD FRIENDS OF THE FARMER

Woodpecker. With the exception of the Sapsucker or Yellow-billed Woodpecker, these birds, according to the Ohio Experiment Station (Bulletin 198), perform a service to mankind for which no other creatures are adapted. They are friends

of the forest, and orchard, in particular. Such insects as are beyond the discovery of other birds and of man are relentlessly pursued by the woodpeckers and devoured. The ants and borers which destroy trees are their special food. Use the shotgun on the sapsucker, however.

Meadowlarks, Quails, Swallows, Mourning Doves, Warblers and Vireas, Sparrows, Robins—all of these are valuable birds because of their destruction of weed seeds and harmful insects. The English Sparrow is not so helpful, however. It is difficult to estimate the great amount of damage that would be done to farm, garden and orchard if it were not for these and similar birds.

ORCHARD CALENDAR FOR APRIL AND MAY

1. If bud worms or case-bearers are present in large numbers, spray with arsenicals just before leaf buds burst. Omit unless these insects are present.

2. For the two insects just mentioned in preceding paragraph, make a second spraying about a week later than the first, or just when the leaf buds begin to show green at the tips.

3. Just before the blossoms open, spray with Bordeaux, combined with an arsenite, for canker-worms, tent-caterpillars, plum curculio, scab, leaf spot, etc. A very important application.

4. Just after blossoms fall, or while they are falling, repeat the foregoing for codling moth, canker worms, curculio, tent-caterpillars and fungous diseases. Very important against codling moth.

5. About seven or ten days after the last spraying, directed in No. 4, repeat for the same troubles.

6. Examine trunks and large limbs for borers and destroy all food with knife, probe, or carbon bisulphide.—Ohio Experiment Station, Circular 52.

SOME CAUSES OF FAILURE IN POULTRY RAISING

1. Endeavoring to keep too many fowls where room for one only can be obtained; that is, saving in expense by cheapening cost of houses and space.

2. Buying fowls from other farms, and thus bringing disease and lice into the flocks.

3. Overfeeding, the fowls being supplied with greatest abundance under the supposition, "The more feed the more eggs."

4. Cold drafts over the fowls at night, with a view to supplying fresh air, when the temperature is low.

5. Wasting time with sick fowls instead of destroying all birds that cannot be cured quickly.

6. Disregarding the breeds by keeping anything that is a fowl.

7. Lack of exercise, the fowls being idle, discontented and consuming food because they have nothing else to do.

8. Failure to supply sufficient warmth in winter, a season when eggs are highest.

9. Feeding corn and wheat exclusively and omitting foods which supply albumen for egg production.

10. Feeding three times a day, the result being indigestion and the introduction of disease in the flock.

11. Lice—both mites and the large lice that are found only on the bodies of the fowls at all seasons of the year.

12. Failure to keep the houses and yards clean. Labor is withheld at the most important period.

—Eighteenth Biennial Report Kansas State Board of Agriculture, p. 493.

GARDEN WORK FOR APRIL

Sweet potato plants may be set out in the open now.

Sow the seed for your main tomato crop.

Sweet, as well as field, corn may be sown now.

Onion sets should be put out, and onion seed for sets may be sown.

It is necessary to cultivate your beans, cabbage, and cauliflower frequently. Shallow cultivation is best.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION REGARDING CORN GROWING, PARTICULARLY IN KENTUCKY AND WEST VIRGINIA

For specific information in regard to corn growing in a locality the farmer should consult experts in the State agricultural experiment station. A card or letter addressed to the State experiment station at Lexington, Ky., or Morgantown, W. Va., will receive attention. Information and assistance may also be had through the State commissioner of agriculture at Frankfort, Ky., or Charleston, W. Va. Farmers' Bulletins 81, 229, 253, 313, 400 414, and 415 of the United States Department of Agriculture relate to corn growing. Farmers' Bulletin 537, entitled "How to Grow an Acre of Corn," by Mr. C. P. Hartley, in charge of the corn investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture, contains information of special value to corn growers. These publications will be sent without cost to any person making application therefor to a Senator or Representative in Congress or to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.—Farmers' Bulletin 546.

SHALLOW CULTIVATION IS BEST FOR CORN

The Ohio Experiment Station (Bulletin 140) has the following to say concerning the shallow cultivation of corn:

Experiments testing the comparative merits of deep and shallow cultivation have been carried on during nine seasons. For deep cultivation the double shovel has been used, working the ground to a depth of four inches or a little more. For shallow working a spring tooth cultivator has been used and the ground stirred to a depth of an inch and a half.

* * * Taking each year's test by itself it will be noticed that without a single exception shallow cultivation has given a larger yield of grain, regardless of weather conditions. * * * * *

With the exception of one season the yield of stover is larger from the shallow cultivation.

Taking the average for the nine seasons' work, shallow cultivation leads in yield of grain by exactly four bushels per acre, and in stover by over two hundred pounds per acre.

This matter of deep and shallow cultivation would seem to be pretty well settled. It has been tested at many different experiment stations and the results have been quite in line with the work herewith reported.

The depth of cultivation evidently has little or no effect upon the number of barren stalks nor upon the weight of ears.

From these experiments the conclusion may be fairly drawn that shallow cultivation is best for corn.

PREPARING TO CAN VEGETABLES AND FRUIT

Home Canning

If the farmer is to reap the full benefit from the growing of vegetables and fruit, he must not only grow enough of these articles to feed himself and family during the spring and summer, but should can enough of them to use during the autumn and winter.

As the Alabama Experiment Station points out, the canning of fruit and vegetables is not the burdensome task that many persons think it is; and it can be learned easily by a child.

It will be found best to buy a special canning outfit. These may be purchased at from \$5.50 to \$25.00; and they will easily pay for themselves. Full directions are always given with these outfits. A good canning outfit should contain—

1. A boiler with a fire box underneath.
2. Soldering irons (1 tipping iron and 1 copper).
3. A wire basket for scalding tomatoes.
4. A rack to hold tin cans while cooking.
5. Tongs for lifting the hot cans.
6. Solder, flux, and sal ammoniac.
7. A fire pot for heating irons.

Tomatoes, snap beans, lima beans, peas, corn okra, beets, asparagus, pumpkins, squash and sweet potatoes are the vegetables usually canned.

The Alabama Station mentions the following companies as being reliable ones from which to purchase home canning outfits:

Tharpe Hardware Company, Elkin, N. C.
Slimmer & Sons, Ridgely, Md.
Home Canner Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.
The Raney Canning Co., Chapel Hill, N. C.
Reeves & Son, Collinsville, Ala.
Dixie Hardware Co., Elkin, N. C.
The Meridian Farm Canning Machine Co., Meridian, Miss.
Northwestern Steel & Iron Works, Eau Clair, Wis.
Cans may be secured from—
E. F. Kirwin & Co., Baltimore, Md.
American Can Co., Atlanta, Ga.
Modern Canner Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

HEALTH HINTS FOR APRIL

Prepared by the Virginia Department of Health.

April should be the month in which to protect yourself and your family from malaria, "chills and fever." This may not always be as difficult as it would appear. Malaria does not come from drinking water, or from the "miasm" or from "night air." It is carried by mosquitoes which are hatched in the stagnant water around your premises. In a rural community it is not often that mosquitoes come from a neighbor's house. They are generally home-grown.

Prevent the breeding of mosquitoes and you prevent malaria. This is the whole truth. If you will see to it that on your premises there is not a single place where stagnant water stands, you can usually be assured that mosquitoes will not trouble you. Watch your "low-grounds," watch your sluggish branches, watch the mud-holes in the road, watch the rain barrels, watch the empty bottles around the place. Enough mosquitoes may be hatched in a bottle to make your life miserable from summer until frost.

Recognizing these facts, the careful householder spends a few days in April going over his farm and draining the damp places. Where a little ditch will keep a field from becoming swampy, he digs the ditch. Where a few shovels of dirt will cover a mud-hole he destroys that breeding place. Where bottles afford a shelter for the pest he removes them. If there remains stagnant water which cannot be drained, he sprays this with oil, which, for at least ten days, will keep mosquitoes from breeding in still water.

In case the farmer lives in a marshy part of the State where individual effort on his part will not suffice, he has still another way of avoiding chills and fever. This is to protect himself by doses of quinine, a drug which will prevent symptoms of malaria even though the person who takes it has been bitten by a malaria mosquito. In some sections of Virginia this is the best way of fighting malaria. Quinine, of course, is not a palatable drug, but ten grains once a week from May to October will not produce serious ill-effects and will prevent malaria in most cases.

Learn how malaria is carried by a particular kind of mosquito; learn how you can identify that mosquito when you see it; learn how to ditch your fields, to protect your rain barrels; learn how fish will keep mosquitoes from breeding in shallow pools where fish can live. You will find all these matters explained in a special bulletin of the State Board of Health on Malaria. This bulletin will be sent to you free of cost if you will mail a request for it to the State Board of Health.

A NEW SYSTEM OF COTTON CULTURE

A new system of cotton culture, which lessens the danger of injury from the boll weevil, has been developed by the office in the Bureau of Plant Industry which is in charge of cotton breeding. By this system it has been made possible to control the formation of the branches and shorten the season required for the setting of the crop.

The formation of the branches is controlled by an improved method of thinning. By leaving the plants closer together during the early stages the production of vegetative branches is avoided and larger numbers of bolls are developed on the lower fruiting branches of the main stalk of the plant.

This method of later and more gradual thinning makes it possible to leave more plants in the rows than is now customary and yet injurious crowding is avoided because the vegetative branches are suppressed, instead of being allowed to grow up and smother the lower fruiting branches where the early flowers and bolls are produced.

Earlier planting is a means of securing larger yields in regions where the period of crop production is limited either by short seasons or by the presence of the boll weevil. Greatly increased yields have been secured in this way, even as high as 50 per cent.

The Bureau of Plant Industry will supply free to cotton growers on application its circular which describes this new system.—Weekly News Letter U. S. Department of Agriculture.

HOW TO CONTROL THE CORN EAR WORM

The Oregon Agricultural College (Bulletin 91) makes the following comment relative to the control of the corn ear worm which eats away the tips of corn and cuts off the silk:

"Planting the corn some little distance from corn occupied by corn the past season will prove of some value. Early planting is recommended. In this way the corn will be in the silk before the moths are out in numbers to infest it.

"A trap crop of the white field bean planted adjacent to the corn at such a time that the plants will be in bloom at the same time the corn is in the silk will also be of value. The bloom of the bean is attractive to the moth and the vine will be utilized for egg deposition. * * * * *

"Fall, winter, or early spring plowing, followed up with frequent summer surface cultivation, is the practice followed in the great field corn districts of the Middle West. Where practiced consistently, these cultural methods generally suffice for the conditions there."

Arsenical sprays are also employed for the first generation of corn worms. At this time the corn is about knee high and permits the spraying to be done.

CARE OF BABY PIGS

Suckling Pigs

When the pigs are from two to three weeks old they should be taught to eat. A small corner of the pen should be fenced off in such a way that the pigs can enter but the sows are excluded. In this pen a slop of middlings or shorts should be placed so the pigs can help themselves. They will eat very little at first, but will learn rapidly, and by the time they are one month old will be eating enough to make appreciable improvement in their gains. This is the time when it does not pay to economize in feed, either in the amount fed directly to the pigs or in the amount fed to the sow. It will require less feed to make a pound of gain on little pigs at this age than it will on pigs after weaning, not deducting the amount of feed which the sow uses for her own maintenance. An experience made at Wisconsin shows that sows and pigs for ten weeks before weaning made 100 pounds gain on 316 pounds of meal. This includes the gain made on the sows as well as that made by the pigs. The sows gained little, however. After weaning, the pigs for seven weeks required 384 pounds of meal to make 100 pounds gain, while the sows during the same period required 947 pounds of meal to make 100 pounds gain. Deducting the amount of feed which it was estimated was required by the sows for their maintenance, it was found that the pigs before weaning made 100 pounds gain on about 250 pounds of feed (grain or its equivalent). Other experiments and practical experience indicate that the above figures are not far from correct.

Weaning

Pigs may be weaned at from six to twelve weeks of age. Where two litters per year are raised it is necessary to wean at the earlier age, since sows do not as a rule breed readily while suckling. Pigs, to do well when weaned at six weeks old, must have been taught to eat before weaning and must have a good deal of milk after weaning, otherwise they will be somewhat stunted. Some breeders wean by taking away the whole litter, returning them to the sow a few times; other breeders take away most of the litter, but leave a few for several days. The most common way, and in most cases the best way, is to take all the pigs away at once and not return them. Where the pigs reach the age of ten or twelve weeks the sow may wean them, or in case they do not the pigs are so nearly weaned that they do not notice the separation. The main object of returning the pigs to the sow after they have once been taken away is that she may be dried off gradually but the pigs are much more restless after they have once been back. The better way is to leave the weaker pigs with the sow for a few days, except in a few cases where the pigs which are left refuse to suck any but the teats to which they have been accustomed. This, however, is not apt to occur unless the pigs get all the milk they can consume from the teats to which they are accustomed.—Oregon Experiment Circular Bulletin 18.

BLUE SKY INVESTIGATION

Beware of certain land agents offering to sell lands in the Rio Grande Valley, at inflated prices ranging from \$175 to \$300 an acre. This is the advice of Dr. G. E. Condra director of the Nebraska Conservation and Soil Survey, Lincoln, who has in his possession numerous affidavits from duped purchasers and who is investigating the methods used by these land sharks. The investigation is being made under the laws passed by the last legislature. It is the practice to take landseekers in special cars and allow them no opportunity to get disinterested information. Every part of the sale is made with haste. Anyone wishing reliable information regarding the land in the Rio Grande Valley should either go to a dealer of known repute or write to the Conservation and Soil Survey. The investigation is not being made to discourage purchasers in the Rio Grande Valley or any other section of the country. Neither is it being done to bring reliable land agents in disfavor; but to furnish accurate information to Nebraska citizens.—University of Nebraska News Service, Vol. 1, No. 29.

DO NOT CROWD TREES

Misinformation is given in certain sections of Nebraska concerning the proper distance between trees in an orchard. It has been recommended by certain uninformed nurserymen that trees be planted about fifteen feet apart each way, whereas they should be thirty-five to forty feet apart. If planted too close, they cannot be cultivated or sprayed too good advantage. The limbs grow upright and make picking difficult. Furthermore, shaded portions of the tree will not set a normal crop. The horticultural department of the Nebraska Agricultural College says that the proper distances for the different trees are as follows: Cherries and peaches, twenty feet; pears, twenty to twenty-five feet; and apples, thirty to forty feet except Whitney crab and Dutchess and other upright growing varieties, which may be planted but twenty-five feet apart.—University of Nebraska News Service, Vol. 1, No. 29.

CONCERNING THE ORCHARD

Waverly, Alabama.

Dear Editor of The Negro Farmer:

My orchard isn't doing well. Some of the peach trees are dying every day, and the fruit is small and inferior, and often rots before ripening.

The apples fall from the apple trees when they are very small, and some of the trees that are five or six years old never have had any apples on them.

I have spent several dollars buying scions, and would appreciate any advice you might give through our paper.

(Signed) J. W. Hughes.

While it is very likely that your peach trees have either brown rot, peach rosette, or little peach disease; and that your apple trees are affected with apple scab, it is not possible to give you the proper information unless we have more information about your orchard. The care that you have given it, the pruning, spraying, cultivation, age of your peach trees, situation, drainage, etc., all have an important bearing on the subject. For example, failure to prune trees will produce fruit of small size and poor quality, will impair the vigor of the tree, and cause the tree to die finally. Failure to spray will also cause very serious damage to your orchard.

If you will tell us what care you have given your orchard, there will be no difficulty in deciding whether your troubles are due to lack of care in working it or to diseases.

Also describe the appearance of the fruit and leaves on your diseased trees and tell whether worms are found in them.

THE USE OF STREAMS AND CREEKS

Many farmers live on or near a small branch or creek. These streams of water should be made use of. In many places where these creeks and branches are not being used, hundreds of ducks and geese could be raised with almost no cost.

If your farm is located near a stream, do not delay getting ducks and geese and let them have the advantage of this water. All this will add to the income of the farm.

A GREAT DEMAND FOR TEACHERS OF AGRICULTURE

The following from The Houston (Texas) Daily Post should be of interest to young colored men who are trying to decide what profession they will adopt:

"The demand for men who have specialized in agriculture to teach that branch of knowledge in the high schools of the State is increasing so rapidly that the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College is unable to supply the demand for those who have been trained in the school of agriculture which it conducts. Larger salaries are offered by the

No. 4 Special Buggy **Only \$68**

Highest Grade
A Value Unequaled. Sold
on \$1.00 Profit Margin

From Factory
to User

Write for prices and other
styles. Send for catalog.

C. R. PATTERSON & SONS, Greenfield, O.
Largest Negro Carriage Concern in the United States



public schools for men to teach agriculture than for ordinary teachers. It pays for young men to equip themselves with such agricultural education as is obtainable in many of our colleges and universities of the present day, whether they expect to become instructors in schools or not. Agriculture is an honorable vocation. Moreover, scientific agriculture is a sure way to the profitable employment of one's talent and learning. Fit yourself to be a farmer and to make other fit farmers and give the country the uplift it long has needed."

These words of advice are as applicable to colored boys as to white boys; and THE NEGRO FARMER hopes that more of the former will be found taking the agricultural courses being offered in many of the schools.

ASK QUESTIONS

We want to be of service to the colored farmers throughout the country in answering any questions relating to farming, gardening or housekeeping.

Do not hesitate to write us freely. It will be a pleasure to answer all the questions we can. If there is any problem relating to farming, gardening or housekeeping that is puzzling you, let us try to help you.

The story of what one colored farmer has done will help some one else; and it is a duty which the successful ones owe to their less fortunate toilers on the farm to tell their story so that it may be carried to the others.

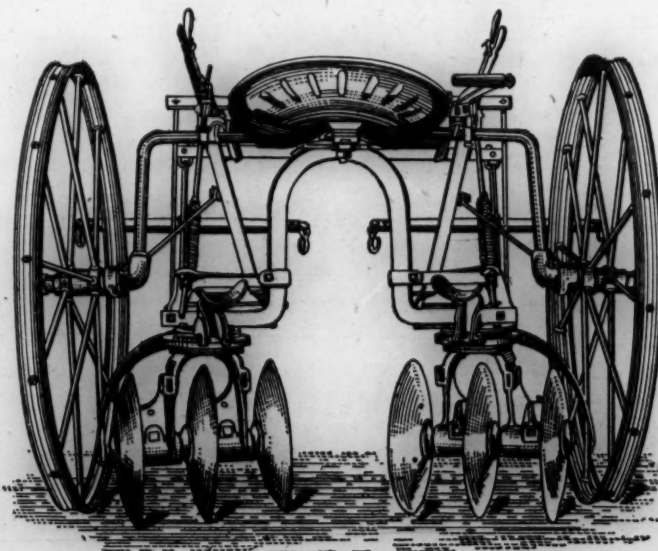
Write to The Negro Farmer and tell the paper about your own problems.

OWN A CULTIVATOR

Competent labor is scarce. Why not let machines do your farm work? Cultivate your cotton and corn with an OLIVER Cultivator. Quick and satisfactory results follow the use of improved implements and the Oliver is the leader. We have them for riding or walking.

LOEB HARDWARE CO.

Montgomery - Alabama



THE "BIG WORDS" AND EVENTS EXPLAINED

FARMERS' DICTIONARY

PARCELS POST TO CARRY PRODUCE TO CON- SUMER DIRECT

Ten Cities Selected to Begin Work of Establishing Connection Between Producer and Consumer

WASHINGTON, March 22.—Preliminary steps were taken by the Postoffice Department today to perfect its plan for reducing the cost of living by having the parcel post carry farm products direct to the door of the consumer. Ten cities were selected to begin the work of establishing direct connection between producer and consumer, Postmaster General Burleson already having issued an order permitting the use of crates and boxes for butter, eggs, poultry, vegetables and fruit shipped by parcels post.

Orders today went to the postmasters at Boston, Atlanta, St. Louis, San Francisco, Baltimore, Detroit, La Crosse, Wis.; Lynn, Mass.; Rock Island, Ill., and Washington, directing them "to receive the names of persons who are willing to supply farm produce in retail quantities by parcels post." Printed lists of the same will be distributed among town and city patrons.

"By the use of the lists," said First Assistant Postmaster General Roper today, "the city consumer can get in touch with a farmer who will fill his weekly orders for farm produce. The consumer will receive the produce fresh from the country and the personal relationship established no doubt will tend to improve the quality. The farmer will be relieved of carrying his produce to market, as the rural carrier will make daily collections at the farmer's own door of these retail shipments to city consumers.

"The point has been raised that difficulty will be experienced in the return of hampers and other containers. This problem does not appear to me to be difficult as the farmer may use inexpensive hampers whose value would not warrant their return, or he may use the higher grade hampers for which he may include an additional charge to be credited to the consumer on the return of the hamper by parcel post."

HE IS RISEN

"Getting the Last Drop" Blatchford's Calf Meal

As good as New Milk at half the Cost



100 pounds makes 100 gallons of Perfect Milk Substitute.

Send for pamphlet, "How to Raise Calves Cheaply and Successfully Without Milk."

At your Dealers or

BLATCHFORD'S CALF MEAL FACTORY
WAUKEGAN ILLINOIS

THE SOUTHERN SALES COMPANY

Atlanta, Georgia

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Atlanta University is beautifully located in the city of Atlanta, Georgia. The courses of study include training and domestic science. Among the teachers are graduates of Yale, Harvard, Dartmouth and Wellesley. Forty-four years of successful work have been completed. Students come from all parts of the South. Wholesome and pleasant home life in the school with best opportunities for earnest and faithful students. Athletic field and tennis courts. Graduates are almost universally successful.

For further information address:

President EDWARD T. WARE, Atlanta University

CANNERS! Home Canning Outfits, made in all sizes. Prices \$2.50 up. Fully guaranteed. We furnish everything needed to make a complete canning factory on the farm. Write today for 1914 catalogue.

DIXIE HARDWARE and MANUFACTURING CO., Elkin, N. C.

Call On Your Merchant For

ALAFLAGA SHOES

We guarantee and stand behind them

THE PITTS SHOE CO.

Wholesale Distribution

MONIGOMEY, ALABAMA

Look for the Red Flag on the box, and the stamp on the soles

CANS FRUIT CANS VEGETABLE CANS

Because of our superior equipment and courteous, efficient service more "American" Cans are used in this country, than any other manufacture.

This fact is a guarantee to you that "American" Cans are the best and most satisfactory cans made.

Always specify "American" Cans when ordering from your dealer or direct to

AMERICAN CAN COMPANY

Baltimore, Md. Cincinnati, O. Chicago, Ill. New Orleans, La. Atlanta, Ga. Dallas, Texas

Roses—

Lovliest of lovely things are they
On earth that soonest pass away.
The rose that lives its little hour
Is prized beyond the sculptured flower.

—W. C. Bryant.

Write to the Division of Publications, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and ask for information about crops in which you are interested.

THE SOUTHERN SALES COMPANY
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
100 lbs. 250g 100 lbs.

THE BUSINESS CHAT

Mr. Farmer, we want a good live agent in your community. We need a Negro Farmer agent in every community, and offer liberal commissions. Be active in helping to make your community a "reading" community and at the same time earn some good cash returns. Such representatives are to collect subscriptions in the local territory and forward same to this paper. Be sure to write us for terms.

There are three classes of men in the world today—men who buy, men who sell, and advertising men who bring them together:

Pretty soon, we will be receiving various inquiries from our friends requesting us to tell them where to get so and so; and so those of you who have something to sell, such as poultry, butter, eggs, feed, livestock, machinery, etc., ought to start advertising now, while people are purchasing their annual supplies. Remember that "one drop of ink makes thousands think." People will not know that you have anything to sell unless you tell them. The Negro Farmer should become your advertising medium, your mouthpiece, as it were, and really, through it you have an opportunity of reaching those who have not been reached by any publication. Here, then, is your chance. Let us help you dispose of your products, permit us to aid you to make a better living.

In writing to advertisers, always say, "I saw your 'ad' in The Negro Farmer."

Be sure to read carefully every advertisement appearing in The Negro Farmer this week. There are several new ones; and many things, from strawberry plants, to feather pillows, can be had by getting in touch with our advertisers. If you are thinking of colonizing and settling on new lands, write to Blackdom, New Mexico, for further information. If you desire canning outfits, seed sweet potatoes, a home shoe making booklet—or almost anything—you will find dealers represented here who carry such things. All of these are reliable people. Write them. Be sure to say you saw their ad in The Negro Farmer. This helps you, and it doesn't hurt us.

SCHOOL BOYS—ATTENTION!

Remember, we allow a real liberal commission to agents of The Negro Farmer. You can earn enough money during spare time to help yourself through college. Negro farmers are subscribing for this publication at sight. You can get out among them and hustle for business. Write us today for confidential terms.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE SUMMER SCHOOL for TEACHERS

Fifth Annual Session
June 22 to July 17, 1914

Over 400 Teachers Present Last Summer

Reduced round trip tickets on all railroads East of the Mississippi River

Practical Tailor and Haberdasher

B. F. Pearson

We carry a nice line of Dry Goods. Uniform and Citizen Suits made to order. We would be glad to have you come in and inspect our line.

FRANKLIN ROAD, Greenwood



GET A HOME

Make Your Rent Money Do It

Send for FREE BULLETIN of Real Estate Bargains. It tells you how.

FRANK L. WEST Drawer 54 Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

ORDER STRAWBERRY PLANTS. Send \$2.50 for 1000 plants. \$1.50 for 500. Triumph, and Nancy Hall seed sweet potatoes at \$1.50 per bu. Slips, \$1.75 per 1,000. write

JOHN LIGHTFOOT.

East Chattanooga, Tenn.

GOOD GOODS!

For high quality groceries you make no mistake in sending your orders to us. We sell merchants exclusively. Handle a complete line of flour sugar, canned goods, bagging and ties, and all seed-stuff for planting purposes. GIVE US A TRIAL.

The Oldest Wholesale Grocery in Montgomery

SCHLOSS & KAHN

Wholesale Grocers Montgomery, Alabama.

Bernard Frank & Co.

Wholesale

Dry Goods, Notions and Gents
Furnishing Goods

Corner Lee and Tallapoosa Sts.

Montgomery, :: Ala.

New York Office, : : 413 Leonard, St.

Don't You Want To Sell, Mr. Farmer?

Grade Carefully,

Pack Carefully,

Ship Carefully, to a Reliable Firm, which pays good prices for high grade farm products.

WE WANT Vegetables, Fruits, Poultry, Eggs, Sea Food, etc. Give us a trial and be convinced of our honesty.

GHOLSON & COMPANY

1532 South St. - - - Philadelphia, Pa.

In writing to advertisers always say: "I saw your ad in The Negro Farmer."

WANTED!

500 Negro families (farmers preferred) to settle on FREE Government Lands in Chaves Co., New Mexico. Blackdom is a Negro colony. Fertile soil, ideal climate, No "Jim Crow" Laws. For information write:

JAMES HAROLD COLEMAN
Blackdom, New Mexico.

NOTICE!

I have just completed my new book, entitled "TODAY and YISTIDY", consisting of poems, dialogues and short stories. Just the thing for Public School concerts, Instructive programs, etc. Price \$.75 cents, postage prepaid. Write:

WILLIAM E. DANCER

Humorist, Poet and Song Writer.

Box 71, Tuskegee Inst., Ala.

Second Printing

Fiftieth Anniversary Edition

The Negro Year Book

By **MONROE N. WORK**

In Charge of Records and Research
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute

The New York World says: "In its more than 300 pages, besides routine information, there is a review of Negro progress for the last fifty years made timely by the semi-centennial of emancipation. A complete index makes all the facts in the book easily accessible and a classified list of articles and publications on the Negro tells the reader where to turn for phases of Negro Life or Negro Problem."

The San Antonio Express says: "It is filled with facts that are new to even those of us who all our lives have read of, studied and known at close range the Negro."

Springfield, Mass., Republican says: "There are year books of many sorts, the Statesman's Year Book and others; but though some of these are invaluable in their special fields, not one of them has the interest of a human document possessed by the Negro Year Book."

AGENTS WANTED in every part of the country. Write us and let us tell you what our agents are doing with this book.

Single copies 25c. By mail 30c

Liberal discounts to persons purchasing 100 copies or more

Negro Year Book Co.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

40 LB. FEATHER BED, PILLOWS, ETC., WORTH \$22 ONLY **\$10**

Send us \$10 and we will ship you this new 40 lb. FEATHER BED, one pair new 6 lb. feather PILLOWS, (\$2.50) one pair full-size BLANKETS, (\$3.00) one full-size COMFORT, (\$3.00) one full-size SHEET, (\$1) one pair Pillow SLIPS, (50c) worth \$22, all for only \$10. New goods and no trash. Positively the biggest bargain ever offered. Satisfaction guaranteed. This offer is good for a short time only to advertise our goods.

A Real Bargain For You



SAFE
DELIVERY
GUARANTEED

Mail money order now or write for order blanks and circular.

We are in the very heart of the feather market. Our prices for pure, genuine downy feathers can't be equaled.

SOUTHERN FEATHER AND PILLOW CO.

Dept. 1541 GREENSBORO, N. C.

Learn To Grow Hair

And Make Money



MADAM C. J. WALKER

President of the Madam C. J. Walker Manufacturing Co., and the Lelia College, 640 North West Street, Indianapolis, Indiana

Complete Course By
Mail or By Personal
Instruction

A DIPLOMA

FROM

LELIA COLLEGE

Of Hair Culture Is
A Passport To
Prosperity

Is Your Hair Short?

Breaking Off, Thin or Falling Out?

Have you Tetter, Eczema? Does your scalp itch? Have you more than a normal amount of Dandruff?

If so write for Mme. C. J. Walker's Wonderful Hair Grower, which positively cures all scalp diseases, stops the Hair from Falling Out and starts it at once to Growing.

These Remedies are manufactured only by

THE WALKER MANUFACTURING CO.

640 N. West Street, Indianapolis, Ind.

A Six Weeks' Trial Treatment sent to any address by mail for \$1.70. Make all Money Orders payable to Mme. C. J. Walker. Send stamp for reply. Agents Wanted. Write for Terms.

THE NEGRO FARMER

Something New: Something Needed

A Paper That Helps People to Become Better Farmers is an Aid to the Church, the School and to the Secular and Religious Papers

It has been decided to publish at Tuskegee Institute Post Office, Every-Other-Week for the present, a national farm paper to be known as THE NEGRO FARMER. It will be published in the interest of Negro landowners, tenant farmers and of those who employ Negro labor. There is no other strictly farm newspaper in the world devoted to the interest of Negro farmers.

Many of the white farm newspapers enjoy huge circulations and there is no reason why a farm paper in the interest of Negroes should not prove equally successful. In fact, occupying an exclusive field it should enjoy a success far beyond that of the usual farm publication. It is proposed to circulate this paper among the 2,000,000 black farmers of the United States. The paper will be eight pages, of about the size of "The Country Gentleman."

DR. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON STATES:

The Tuskegee Institute has no financial interest or control over this new publication, but some of the active officers of the institution are interested in its success and believe that it will not only accomplish great good but will be a paying investment. The paper is backed by a strong organization and funds have been provided in advance to assure its publication. Those in active control of THE NEGRO FARMER have my entire confidence and good will.

—BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

The success of this project is assured because of the solid and sensible lines upon which it is being laid out.

All the capital stock has been subscribed for.

The subscription price is \$1.00 a year and Subscriptions and Advertisements are invited. Clubbing rates with important Negro newspapers will be arranged for on a satisfactory basis. We are now ready to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements.

Address all communications to:

THE NEGRO FARMER

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA.

You Can

LEARN HOW TO REPAIR SHOES

And Save Money

A complete set of lessons in shoe repairing clearly illustrated in Book Form.

55c. BY MAIL

Send Money Order To

FRANK L. WEST, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.